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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/777,959	02/12/2004	David James Clarke	ID-506 (80219)	7100

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EXAMINER
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LEROUX, ETIENNE PIERRE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2161

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/05/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/777,959	Applicant(s) CLARKE ET AL.	
	Examiner Etienne P. LeRoux	Art Unit 2161	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7-13,15-18,20-23 and 25-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,7-13,15-18,20-23 and 25-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/12/2006</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***Claim Status***

Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-18, 20-23 and 25-28 are pending. Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-18, 20-23 and 25-28 are rejected as detailed below.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 5, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Pat No 6,615,212 issued to Dutta, (hereafter Dutta) in view of Pub No US 2003/0231207 issued to Huang (hereafter Huang).

Claims 1, 8 and 9:

Dutta discloses:

a plurality of data storage devices for storing data using at least one of a plurality of different operating protocols [Fig 4, 410, 416, 414, 412, 404, 408]

a plurality of mobile wireless communications devices for accessing said data storage devices and each using at least one of the plurality of different operating protocols [Fig 4, 408];

a protocol interface device comprising

a front-end proxy module for communicating with said plurality of mobile wireless communications devices using respective operating protocols [Fig 6, 606]

a protocol engine module communicating with said front-end proxy module using a common interface protocol [Fig 6, 608]

a respective interface connector module for translating communications between said protocol engine module and said plurality of data storage devices for each of the different operating protocols [Fig 6, 610 and Fig 7, 704].

Dutta discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above but does not disclose a front-end proxy module based upon a Web-based distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV) common interface protocol. Huang discloses a front-end proxy module based upon a Web-based distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV) common interface protocol [paragraph 37]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Dutta to include a front-end proxy module based upon a Web-based distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV) common interface protocol as taught by Huang for the purpose of allowing a plurality of users to access a document in storage and directly edit the document at the storage location [paragraph 37].

Claim 5:

The combination of Dutta and Huang discloses the elements of claim 1 as noted above and furthermore discloses wherein said plurality of data storage devices, said plurality of mobile wireless communications devices, and said protocol interface device process electronic mail (e-mail) messages [Dutta, col 6, line 60 through col 7, line 13].

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Dutta and Huang as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Pub No US 2002/0162026 issued to Neuman et al (hereafter Neuman).

Claim 2:

The combination of Dutta and Huang discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above but does not disclose wherein said protocol engine module comprises a universal proxy servlet module. Neuman discloses wherein said protocol engine module comprises a universal proxy servlet module [paragraph 72]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the above combination of references to include wherein said protocol engine module comprises a universal proxy servlet module as taught by Neuman for the purpose of providing a dynamic intelligent network interface that can be changed at any time [paragraph 73].

Claim 3:

The combination of Dutta and Huang discloses wherein said protocol interface device further comprises a plurality of provider modules coupled between said universal proxy servlet module and said plurality of interface connector modules; and wherein said universal proxy

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servlet module generates calls for said plurality of interface connector modules based upon respective data access requests from said front-end proxy module, and wherein said plurality of provider modules transfer the calls to respective interface connector modules [Dutta, col 5, lines 5-20, col 6, lines 1-15]

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Dutta and Huang as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of US Pat No 6,918,041 issued to Chen (hereafter Chen), as best examiner is able to ascertain.

Claim 7:

The combination of Dutta and Huang discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above but does not disclose wherein said protocol interface device generates an error responsive to at least one non-supported operating protocol. Chen discloses wherein said protocol interface device generates an error responsive to at least one non-supported operating protocol [col 8, lines 20-35]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the above combination of references to include wherein said protocol interface device generates an error responsive to at least one non-supported operating protocol as taught by Chen for the purpose of obtaining an alert on the occurrence of a fault condition.

Regarding claims 10-13, 15-18, 20-23 and 25-28, examiner maintains that they can be rejected on a similar basis to above claims.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed December 12, 2006 have been carefully considered and found persuasive but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Etienne P. LeRoux whose telephone number is (571) 272-4022. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on (571) 272-4023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Etienne LeRoux

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12/28/2006

*Etienne Flehauer*  
*primary examiner*